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monary tuberculosis, 14; rheumatism, 3; senile debility, 6; still born, 9; syncope, 3; tetanus neonatorum, 4; enteric fever, 1; umbilical hemorrhage, 1; other causes, 9.

During the same period there were reported 11 cases of smallpox, with no deaths.

*Reports from Rio de Janeiro—Plague—Smallpox increasing—Public health—Compulsory vaccination.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, August 17, as follows:

During week ended the 13th instant the following vessels were inspected, issued bills of health, and sailed for United States ports:

On the 11th instant the British steamship *Homer*, for New Orleans, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers, and with no change in the personnel of the crew while in this port.

This ship was the second to sail from here for New Orleans via Barbados, the first being the British steamship *Newton*, which sailed from here on the 1st instant, with orders to stop at that port for disinfection, in order to avoid detention and disinfection at New Orleans. The order governing these vessels, to which I made reference in my cablegram to your office of the 11th instant, directs the agents of the Lamport and Holt Line here to order this procedure on the part of all their vessels, as arrangements have been completed with the United States health authorities, by virtue of which the disinfection at Barbados is to be made by a United States health official, and in consequence of it all such vessels arriving at New Orleans healthy will be allowed free entry, i. e., no disinfection or detention.

This order is causing much pleasure among the shippers here, as the detention of five days at New Orleans during the closed season has always been most disagreeable to the shipping people at this port.

No other vessels left this port for the United States during the period under consideration.

*Plague in Peru.*

A dispatch of date of the 15th instant states that the bubonic plague increases daily in Trujillo, becoming more and more serious.

*Pernambuco health statistics.*

A dispatch of date of the 12th instant, from Pernambuco, states that during the last fortnight of last month (July) there were in all 428 deaths, the greatest daily mortality was 41, and the lowest 18, and the average 26.7. General coefficient of mortality per thousand of the population, 51.5. No statements as to causes of deaths.

*Sanitary reports of Rio de Janeiro.*

During this week, ended August 14, there were in all, 438 deaths. Of this very large number none were caused by yellow fever, nor were there any cases of this disease, from which this city has been absolutely free for more than 2 weeks to this date. This state of affairs at the beginning of the warm season is most satisfactory and is a proof of the very excellent work being done here by the health department.

Plague caused 2 deaths with 5 new cases, and at the close of the week there were in all 14 cases under treatment at the Hospital Paulo Candido, and 1 case under observation. Smallpox is steadily, but slowly, increasing. During the week it caused 136 deaths, the highest number it has reached this year, with 270 new cases, 12 less than last week, although there were 18 more deaths than during the previous week. Up to date this year there have been 3,489 cases reported, with 1,730 deaths. This is, of course, a very high percentage of deaths, but when one considers that they almost all occur in unvaccinated persons, i. e., persons who have never been successfully vaccinated, it is not so startling. I am inclined to think, that sooner or later, before the deaths occur, or before recovery occurs, all cases are reported, and that the number of cases reported is very close to the true state of affairs. The fine is so very high, and it has already been so often imposed since the new law went into effect that now, all physicians, even the charlatans, are reporting all cases of infectious and contagious diseases.

At the close of the week there were 370 cases of variola in the Hospital São Sebastião undergoing treatment.

There were no deaths from measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, choleraic diseases of children, or leprosy. Diphtheria caused 3 deaths; grippe, 12; enteric fever, 1; dysentery, 2; beriberi, 2; malarial fevers, 5, and tuberculosis, 44. Of the total number of deaths, 258 were males, and 180 females, 352 were natives, 81 foreigners, and 5 whose nationality was unknown. Fifty-six were among persons of less than 1 year of age; 72 from 1 to 5 years; from 5 to 10 years, 32; 10 to 20 years, 42; 20 to 30 years, 65; 30 to 40 years, 55; 40 to 50 years, 35; 50 to 60 years, 38; more than 60 years of age, 41; age unknown, 2.

The deaths occurred as regards location as follows: In residences, etc., 268; in civil hospitals, 114; in military hospitals, 3; in Station Casa de Misericórdia, 42; in asylums, convents, etc., 2; in ships in port, none, and in localities unknown to the authorities, 9.

The average daily number of deaths during the week was 62.57, compared with 51.42 during the preceding week and with 46.28 during the corresponding week of last year. The coefficient per one thousand of the population, estimated at 850,000, was 26.94; very high.

The highest range of the thermometer was on the 10th instant, 28.9° C., and the lowest on the 12th and 14th instant, 14.5° C., with a daily average of 19.78° C. There was no measurable rainfall.

Two of the cases of plague reported as being in the hospital at Paulo Candido came to that hospital from the city of Nictheroy, the capital of the State of Rio de Janeiro, and a city which lies just across the bay from this city.

### *Compulsory vaccination.*

A bill to make vaccination compulsory throughout the Republic of Brazil is now before the Congress. A local paper, speaking of the measure, says:

The feeling among the public is, however, strong against this measure—so strong, that even if it be passed, it will probably become a dead letter. Even in the most advanced countries, where the greatest precautions are taken to insure the purity of the vaccine, the advantages and disadvantages of vaccination are questioned. Here the feeling against it, even among the better classes, is intense.